

10/677,714

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REMARKS

Following entry of the above amendments, claims 2-14 and 16-24 will be pending. Claims 1 and 15 have been canceled. Claims 5, 7, 8, 11-14, 16, 17, and 19 have been re-written in independent form, without change in scope. Claims 2 and 18 have been amended to avoid dependence on canceled claims. Claims 24 and 25 have been added.

The indication that claims 6-14, 16, 17, and 19-23 constitute allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. The claims have been amended to put all of the claims into condition for allowance, based on the already-indicated allowable subject matter. As noted above, claims 5, 7, 8, 11-14, 16, 17, and 19 have been re-written in independent form, without change in scope, thereby putting claims 6-14, 16, 17, and 19-23 into condition for allowance. In addition, claim 2 has been amended to depend upon allowable claim 7, and claim 18 has been amended to depend upon claim 19, thus putting claims 2-4 and 18 into condition for allowance. Newly added dependent claims 24 and 25 depend ultimately upon claim 8, and thus are in condition for allowance as well. (The newly-added claims use language found in claims 2-4.) With entry of the amendment, therefore, all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The above amendments render moot the prior art rejections made in the pending Action.

With the claims placed in condition for allowance, rapid favorable action on this application is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Authorization is given to charge \$1,600.00 to Deposit Account No. 18-0988 (Charge No. RAYTP0230US) for the presentation of additional independent claims. In the event any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 18-0988

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(Charge No. RAYTP0230US).

Respectfully submitted,
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